

File Number - 2005-

0418

Jamie McLead - Project  
Planner

**ATTACHMENT P**

Page 1 of 17

TO: Whom it may concern

FROM: Oren Beske, Ph.D.

RE: Waiver of restriction on proximity to "large" daycare for Billie and Ross Ballin's proposed "large" daycare

As educators and parents, my wife and I understand the key role that high quality daycare can play in early childhood development and the upbringing of children. Therefore, my wife took leave of her teaching job to take care of our first son, Mason, until he was about 10 months old. However, when the time came for her to return to her commitment to her students and for Mason to expand his experience, we spent a considerable amount of effort looking for appropriate conditions for our child's daycare. Suffice it to say, after much disappointment, we met Billie Ballin and immediately knew that her home daycare services were exactly what we were searching for. She and Ross provide a loving, caring, nurturing environment that is affordable, close to our home, and encourages children of all ages to learn both academic and social lessons. They provide a service and possess a commitment to the children and their families that is truly unique among the many home daycare facilities that we toured. Indeed, ~~they have become a part of our family. Now, we have another son, Jake, who is four months old and will ready for~~ daycare in the near future. In the absence of the issuance of this waiver, Jake and Mason will most likely be forced into separate daycare facilities creating unnecessary physical and financial stress on our family and other families in similar situations. In addition, it would inhibit other families from enjoying the unique service the Ballin's provide.

Therefore, I am writing this letter in strong support of Billie and Ross Ballin's petition for a waiver on the proximity restriction of another "large" daycare to their proposed "large" daycare. The extra car and foot traffic experienced by the local community will be minimal compared to the benefit afforded to the new families allowed to join the Ballin's larger daycare. In addition, the allowance of the waiver will be yet another step towards maintaining the affordable, safe, family oriented community that makes the city of Sunnyvale such a great place to live and raise a family.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Oren Beske".

Oren Beske, Ph.D.

June 12, 2005

ATTACHMENT F

To Whom It May Concern:

Regarding: Billie's Day Care, 330 Jackson Street, Sunnyvale

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I am writing this letter in support of Billie and Ross Ballin's request to expand their family daycare license. My name is Michelle Beske and I am a mother of two young children and a middle school teacher.

After my first son was born and I needed to return to work, we had a really hard time finding quality daycare for our son. We were new to the community and my husband and I visited several family daycares and finally settled on one. However, I still had some reservations and was very stressed at the thought of leaving my 9 month-old in another person's care. Luckily, I met a woman who has lived in Sunnyvale all of her life and she told me of a daycare about which she had heard many good things for several years. My son Mason and I went for a visit and we stayed and played for over two hours as we both felt so at home. Mason has now been with Billie for almost three years and as we have no family in the area, her house is his home away from home. She provides loving, quality, flexible, reliable, nurturing care for my child at an affordable rate for my salary. Billie is not only my child's daycare provider; she has truly made her home and her family an extension of ours.

We now have another son, Jake, who is four months old. I plan on going back to work in August and in order for him to go to Billie's with his brother; she will need to expand her license. I would like to ask the Sunnyvale Planning Commission to please grant Billie Ballin the waiver she needs in order to operate a large family day care in her new home at 330 Jackson Street. I do not want to separate siblings during the day while I am teaching and I can not imagine sending either child anywhere else. We appreciate Sunnyvale because it is such a child-friendly community and I feel that if you know how some Sunnyvale families could be affected by your decision, then hopefully you will grant Billie's Day Care the waiver needed for her to expand her family day care.

Thank you,

*Michelle Beske*

Michelle Beske

Sunnyvale, Ca. 94087

June 10, 2005

ATTACHMENT F

To Whom It May Concern:

Page 3 of 17

I am writing this letter in full support of Billie Ballin's Day Care in Sunnyvale. I, along with my husband and daughter, have been living in Sunnyvale for a year. When we first bought our house in the spring of 2004, I was pregnant with our first child. I knew that I needed to start looking for a day care now if I was going to find the right one for my child. The biggest fear I had was that I was going to find something that seemed great, but then drop my child off and not know for sure if she was really being cared for. I was referred to Billie's Day Care through a friend at work. Her son attends Billie's and loves it. It was such a relief to know that someone I trusted and respected was happy with their day care and that I would not have to stress about that part as every mother worries about things when returning back to work from maternity leave. The other wonderful part was that Billie was so close to our house, about a ten-minute drive. This meant that my husband and I would be able to spend more time with her on weekday mornings and evenings, since our commute to work, Billie's and our home were so short. As new parents, where every experience with your child is a first, and you are dealing with a variety of adjustments with balancing family and work, it has meant so much to us.

As a school counselor in Palo Alto Unified School District, it is my job to look at the healthy development of the whole child, their social, emotional, intellectual and physical needs. I feel that Billie's Day Care (both her and her husband), provide that and more. Because it is out of a home and not a huge day care center, it is more like a family. All the kids and parents know each and support each other. It is exactly what I was looking for my child's day-care environment. I have been working with kids from pre-school to high school for 17 years and have come across many adults who say they love kids and love working with kids, but their actions and behavior don't support that. I can honestly say that Billie is authentic, this is not just a job or business for her. Her love for children shows in how happy Natalie is to see her every morning and how the other children respond to her so affectionately. Just spend some time in her home and you will feel the warm, positive and caring environment that they provide. Not once have I ever felt nervous or worried about Natalie while she was at Billie's. I know that she is safe not just physically, but emotionally as well.

Billie and her family are now in a bigger house that allows for a few more children to attend the day care. I ask that you please allow her to continue the exceptional care that she gives to children. Like I mentioned before, it is like family at Billie's Day Care. It has made all the difference, going to work knowing that my daughter's needs are being met and then some. It would be a huge loss, not just for us, but for the community, because her day care provides a necessary and valuable service for families in Sunnyvale. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any additional information at ' .

Sincerely,

*Michele Chin*  
Michele Chin

June 6, 2005

ATTACHMENT F

To Whom it May Concern,

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We would like to convey our support of Billie and Ross Ballin's Day Care continuing operation at their new residence at 330 Jackson St. in Sunnyvale. Billie and Ross provide a very valuable service that meets our unique day care needs.

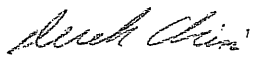

Billie and Ross Ballin have provided day care for our daughter Natalie since she was 3 months old. Finding trustworthy, safe, and dependable day care near our Sunnyvale residence for our young daughter was paramount in our search for a day care provider.

Since starting day care with the Ballins, Natalie has developed a close attachment to Billie, Ross, and the other children in day care. She spends five days a week year-round there in a loving, comfortable, and familiar environment. In the Ballin's smaller and close-knit day care having fewer children, Natalie also receives the special attention and interaction we feel is important for our infant daughter.

Billie and Ross' close proximity to our residence (less than 10 minutes) and work places has kept our commute times reasonable. This is very important as my wife and I work long days and want to spend as much time as possible with Natalie in the evening rather than drive in traffic. Their close proximity is also a key factor should either my wife or I be needed for an emergency.

We look forward to Natalie continuing day care with Billie and Ross at their new residence in Sunnyvale. If you would like further input regarding our support for Billie and Ross' day care, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you,

Derek and Michele Chin

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

June 7, 2005

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To: Whom It May Concern

From: Jennifer Aufang

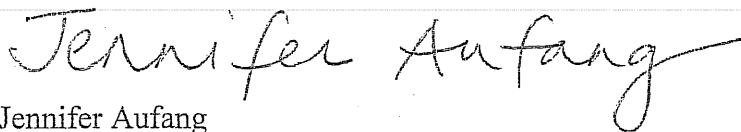
Re: Billie's Day Care, 330 Jackson Street, Sunnyvale, CA.

My name is Jennifer Aufang and I am a parent of two young children, PTA President of Bishop Elementary School, an active volunteer in the community, and employed full time in the high tech industry in Silicon Valley. I am writing this letter to express my feelings regarding Billie & Ross Ballin's request for a waiver to the current Sunnyvale Municipal Code regarding proximity of large family day care facilities.

When my son began school at Bishop Elementary, I spent three full days visiting child-care programs in the area. I was amazed at the places I visited. Many of them were small, overcrowded, expensive and lacked quality care and programs. It seemed there is a huge gap in access to affordable, quality day care centers in Sunnyvale. I turned to the 4C's group for guidance to a family day care and that's when I found Billie's Day Care. I was very impressed with Billie's Day Care, the quality of care, the reliability, the short distance from my home, my son's school and my work, and the fees charged. My oldest son has been at Billie's for four years now and my youngest son (1 year old) has been at Billie's for ten months. I believe Billie and Ross provide a loving, nurturing, caring environment for my children as well as all the children in their care. I would like to ask the Sunnyvale Planning Commission to strongly consider granting Billie's Day Care the waiver needed to operate a large family day care at 330 Jackson Street.

I would also like to point out that not only would I benefit from this waiver, but the city of Sunnyvale also benefits by bridging the gap between child-care and economic development. Figures show employment in the county is expected to increase 20% in the next 20 years, with a projected 11 percent increase in population. It is obvious the need for quality child-care in Sunnyvale will also increase. I believe if Sunnyvale streamlined processes and made permitting and licensing processes quicker and easier, it would be one step forward in making Sunnyvale a child-care friendly city along with increasing the county's overall economic growth. So again, I would like to request the Sunnyvale Planning Commission to strongly consider granting Billie's Day Care the waiver needed to operate a large family day care center at 330 Jackson Street.

Thank you for your time in this matter,



Jennifer Aufang

Sunnyvale, CA 94085

408 537 0700

May 31, 2005

To whom it may concern:

I would like to express my support for the planned expansion of the family day care center run by Billie Ballin. Billie and her family have cared for our children since August of 2002. They have provided diligent and safe care to the children under their watch. The children at her day care center have always been well behaved and very orderly. I would welcome such a day care center in my own neighborhood and feel that the potential addition of four more children to her business would not pose any threats or nuisances to those around her.

I am a member of the Sunnyvale MOMS Club and have many friends who are parents of young children in the city. I know of the need for quality family day care centers such as Billie's. Please join me in my support of expanding Billie Ballin's day care license to care for 12 children along with her husband Ross. Feel free to call me with any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Tina Baggott

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Ken & Julia Johnson

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

File Number - 2005-0418

Jamie McLead - Project  
Planner

ATTACHMENT P

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June 1, 2005

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen:

**RE: Billie & Ross Balin Daycare**

I am writing you concerning the issue of Ross & Billie Ballin's expansion of their daycare service. I have come to know the Ballin's for almost a year now both professionally and personally.

I depend on their services every working day, and I cannot trust any other person to care for my three children like they do. The Ballin's are the most honest and caring people. They are concerned about the community that they live in, and are proud citizens of Sunnyvale and support the Sunnyvale community.

I am also a proud citizen of Sunnyvale, and I respect the citizen's that reside in this community. I work in the near by City of Mountain View for Davis & Co. Realtors. My husband and I depend on the Ballin's to provide daycare service.

In order for the Ballin's to care for our three children aged: 2, 5, & 10, they need to expand their license to accommodate 12 children. Right now we are waiting for the approval of this license so that our 2 & 5 year old children can attend this daycare daily. All three children are emotionally attached and bonded to the Ballin's. My oldest son, who is 10 years old, already attends the daycare after school, and I do not wish to separate and put the children in different daycares.

If this license is approved my husband and I will respect the community's wishes and we will not disturb or park in front of neighboring houses where it can be considered a nuisance. I am a citizen who respects the law and I do not wish to be disruptive to anyone.

If you have any questions or any other concerns regarding this issue that I have not already addressed, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,



Julia C. Johnson

June 1, 2005

Kenneth M. Johnson  
Sunnyvale, Ca. 94086

File Number - 2005-0418  
Jamie McLeod - Project Planner

ATTACHMENT F  
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RE: Billie & Ross Balin Daycare

To Whom It May Concern:

In regard to the opposition of Billie Balin's Daycare, I would like to express my position in support of her daycare.

First of all, this is what they do! They earn, and I mean earn their living taking care of children in the most upright manner so people can go to work and make livings. This is "bread and butter" for them, and it is a need for business's like this to exist as put aforementioned.

If you said to a farmer "you can't grow any more food", then there would be fewer traffic problems sure, but the end result is that the demand would remain the same and the supply would shorten thus raising the price of food. How can you take the means from someone in the United States? It's like saying to people you are going to be a "janitor" in life and you don't have a choice. Given, there will be a small increase in traffic in the area, but not a significant amount at one time. It's not as if everyone who has a child being taken care of is going to pick their children up at one time! That is ridiculous.

Looking at their record of complaints would be a mood point. Why, because there is no complaints of any warrant from their services. Can you say that about some of the other licensed daycare providers in the area with the same experience and expertise such as Billie and Ross Balin?

We are citizens of the city of Sunnyvale, and we respect other people as well, but only on the condition that they show the same respect that they want in return. We pay taxes, and so does everyone else and people have the right to privacy but their rights end when they step on other peoples common rights as well. If noise is an issue, stop the flow of traffic in the morning, ban the leaf blowing machines, stop music from being played loud from cars while driving by. Some of these should be addressed, and in most of these there are alternatives. There are no alternatives to daycare in Silicon Valley.

If you have any questions or any other concerns regarding this issue that I have not already addressed, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Kenneth M. Johnson



File Number 2005-0418  
Jamie McLead - Project  
Planner

*Linda Garcia*

*Sunnyvale, Ca 94085*

ATTACHMENT F

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June 6, 2005

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter for Billy Ballin of Billys Daycare. I have known Billy since our boys went to kindergarten together and they are both now Juniors at Fremont High School. I, like Billy has lived in Sunnyvale all my life and I also have a home based business that allows me to afford to live in Sunnyvale and raise my family in this great community that I was raised in.

Billy attends to my 2 year old on a part time basis so that I am able to do fund raisers for the Sunnyvale Schools in the area and volunteer in the Schools and the community.

Billy not only provides a very caring and safe daycare she also volunteers for the local Schools and does endless fund raising. I understand how hard it is to make ends meet in Sunnyvale with the housing market that has gone sky high. I understand that Billy may have to move out of the town she has made her life in if her day care is not able to expand. Billy is a very respectful person and I am sure that she will make sure that her neighbors will find that they are lucky to have her and her daycare in their neighborhood.

Sincerely,

*Linda Garcia*

Linda Garcia

To whom it may Concern,

June 9, 2005

Page 10 of 17

It has come to my attention that the City of Sunnyvale is considering issuing a permit for Billie Ballin of Billie's Daycare to care for twelve children. I am writing today in absolute support of that permit.

My daughter, Heidi, is one of the children that Billie cares for on a part-time, after school basis. She goes to Billie's house on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school so that I can continue to work at my job and to attend classes to complete my bachelor's degree. It was a difficult decision to place my daughter in daycare because I have always provided the care for my children myself. When I decided it was time to let someone else take care of Heidi after school, I started asking other people who had their children in daycare about their providers. The most glowing recommendation I received was the one for Billie Ballin. I was told that she was warm and caring and that her husband, Ross, helped the kids with their homework. After the first day I knew that we had found the perfect place for Heidi. She had fun, her homework was completed correctly, and she was very enthusiastic about returning to Billie's. She is even looking forward to spending Wednesdays there over the summer break.

I understand that some of the neighbors have concerns about the parking situation at pick-up and drop-off times. From what I have observed, those times are fairly well scattered throughout the day because of the varying schedules of the parents of the kids that Billie cares for. We have also been told, by Billie, to park ONLY in front of her house at these times - even if it means blocking Billie's driveway for a few minutes. Her main concern, aside from the children, is the necessity to NOT inconvenience her new neighbors. She has made it abundantly clear that we, the parents, must do everything we can to not disturb the neighborhood any more than is absolutely necessary.

It would create a truly disastrous situation if Billie is denied the requested permit. She provides a vital service to the community and she does it exceptionally well. There is nothing more important to parents who have to place their children in daycare than being absolutely certain that those children are being cared for by the best possible person. Please keep this in mind when deliberating about this permit.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Tammi Reeves-Messner, MT

File Number - 2005-0418

Jamie McLeod - Project Planner

June 15, 2005

Carol Salonen

Sunnyvale, Ca. 94086-41

City of Sunnyvale  
Licenses Division  
Sunnyvale, California

Subject: 12-Child Daycare License for Billie's Daycare

To Whom it May Concern,

I have known the Ballins as neighbors and friends for the past 12 years and used her Daycare services for my 6 year old son.

Her Daycare is exceptional! The entire family has a very grounded, and loving approach to running their business. Of utmost concern is the safety and well being of each of her 'kids'. She also offers discipline when necessary to maintain an even keel and affection always. My son's in school now, however he always wants to see Billie and visit. I couldn't have had anyone better to care for my child; it was even worth waiting 15 months for an opening for him!

The entire family will be missed greatly.

Sincerely,  
Carol Salonen

To whom it may concern:

This letter is in referral to Billie Ballins day care permit, for me it helps me in regards of my 2 sons Jose and Jesse Amador. My boys have been with her for 2 years, I have tried different centers but they do not like the fact of being apart. I need Mrs. Ballins in order to attend college she has been helpful, loving and trusting in every way and my sons love all her family. They feel comfortable and trust them all for their care because they know they are together until I get there to pick them up. Please allow her to get the permit she is requesting

Sincerely

Rosa M. Amador

File Number- 2005- 0418

Jamie Mchead - Project Planner

File Number - 2005-0418  
Jamie McLeod - Project  
Planner

June 9, 2005

Sunnyvale City Planning Commission  
603 All American Way  
Sunnyvale, CA 94088

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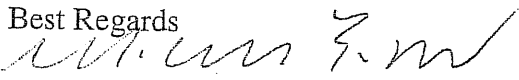
Dear Sunnyvale City Planning Commission-

I am writing in support of Billie Ballin's Family Day Care license. My daughter spent two years (2001-2003) at Billie's Day Care. As an employee of FIRST 5 Santa Clara County, I have had extensive training and experience working with child care providers. In my opinion Billie and Ross provide high quality care in a healthy and stimulating environment. As my husband and I both work full time, we were very pleased with the care Billie provided to our daughter. With no other family in the Bay Area, Billie and Ross were a wonderful support source in raising our child

In addition to providing high quality child care, Billie and Ross are very active members of the Sunnyvale community. The Ballin's have done extensive volunteer work at Bishop Elementary School, Columbia Middle School and Fremont High School.

I feel it would be an asset to the community to have Billie and Ross continue to provide child care.

Best Regards

  
Michelle Wexler

June 9, 2005

ATTACHMENT FPage 14 of 17

To Whom It May Concern:

In July 2004, my young grandson was unexpectedly placed in my care through Child Protective Services. It was my desire to find a daycare setting to help lessen the impact of separation from his parents and where my grandson could feel secure and comfortable. Following a search of many daycare homes and facilities, I had the pleasure of meeting Billie and Ross Ballin. Not only was their home in the neighborhood of my employment and my residence, but the day to day care of my grandson in their home was caring, nurturing, and exceptional beyond my expectations.

I have been employed by the Sunnyvale School District at Bishop Elementary School since 1993 as Site Program Assistant. Bishop is the neighborhood school where the Ballins conduct their daycare. The school culture consists of a diverse mix of single parent families and families where both parents work. One of the objectives of the School District's Strategic Plan is to create a source of daycare within the next 5 years for Bishop Families. Through the work of the school and school district, daycare will be provided for some students; however, with limited resources and a population in excess of 600 students yearly, it is probable that it will be designed for select students only. It remains that private daycare will be essential for many students.

I give my utmost support to the Ballins in their efforts to assist families and the community through their neighborhood daycare. The component they offer to children and their families contains the element of a family environment which is basic, beyond what a managed daycare arrangement can deliver.

Sincerely,



Kathy Goodman

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

6/13/05

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM WRITING THIS LETTER ON THE BEHALF OF  
Billie AND HER FAMILY, THAT HAVE LIVED ACROSS THE  
STREET FROM ME, SINCE I MOVED HERE 4 YEARS AGO  
AT 398 BEEMER AVE, SUNNYVALE. Billie AND HER FAMILY HAVE  
BEEN EXTREMELY NICE, HELPFUL AND PLEASANT NEIGHBORS. THE  
CHILD DAY CARE BUSINESS THEY HAVE OPERATED DIRECTLY ACROSS  
THE STREET FROM MY HOUSE HAS NEVER BEEN A SOURCE  
OF DISTURBANCE OR TRAFFIC PROBLEMS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

I BELIEVE THE RELOCATION OF HER CHILD DAY CARE BUSINESS  
WILL BE THE SAME NOW ISSUE IT WAS FOR ME AND MY  
FAMILY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

Sincerely

ERIC R. FONTAINE



File Number - 2005-0418  
Jamie McLeod - Project  
Planner

ATTACHMENT F

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June 13, 2005

Re: Ballin Day Care, Sunnyvale

To Whom It May Concern:

I have lived next door to Billie and Ross Ballin for the last 8 years and was so sad to hear they were moving. Not only were they great neighbors, they were always very respectful people.

I've never had any issues with their day care business; in fact, their clients were also friendly and courteous. Their comings and goings never disturbed me.

I would highly recommend them as neighbors and would give them every opportunity to continue the noble work they do; caring for children in a loving, supportive and growing family business.

Best regards,

Charleen D. White

Sunnyvale, CA 94086





## COLUMBIA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Larry Curb, Principal  
Linda Morris, Assistant Principal  
Ron Gantvoort, Assistant Principal

739 Morse Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA 94085  
Phone (408) 522-8247  
Fax (408) 522-8254

June 16, 2005

File Number- 2005-0418  
Jamie McLeod - Project Planner

City Planning Commission  
Sunnyvale, California

To Whom It May Concern

I would like to say a few words about Billie Ballin. For the past three years her son has been a part of the Columbia Middle School Music Department playing clarinet in the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and Advanced Bands. In that time she has been an active volunteer in the Columbia Music Booster organization culminating in her taking on a leadership position for the past two years. With 3 bands and three choirs totaling 265 students, this is no small task.

She is focused, hard working, organized, innovative and willing to work whenever she has time. She is also trust worthy and very honest. She can be counted on to get the job done. She coordinated many projects and fundraisers which would not have happened without her involvement. She transformed the fundraising for the music department and took us to a whole new level. More importantly, she is an incredibly nice person. Warm and easy to work with, she was great with the students. As a chaperone she was able to lead them and control them, but was always friendly while doing so. She was well liked by the music students. As for myself, I would not only consider her a colleague, but a friend.

I cannot say enough about her. Her son has just recently graduated from Columbia Middle and her presence in the Music Booster's will be missed. She has created quite a void to fill.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me at (408) 656-4453 or at [bgolden@sesd.org](mailto:bgolden@sesd.org). I would be very happy to talk with you.

Sincerely,

Bill Golden  
Music Teacher  
Columbia Middle School